

2005 SUMMER "FIRE" JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is currently recruiting for **Forest Fire Fighter Crew Members** and **Natural Resource Workers** for the 2005 summer season to perform pre-suppression and suppression related activities as a member of a hand crew, wildland fire engine crew or Helitack crew. This is an excellent opportunity for motivated individuals and students who desire a career in natural resource management or to gain fundamental forestry experience through fire crew employment.



Individuals must be willing and capable of performing strenuous outdoor work safely and productively and of accepting direction and acting responsibly. The duration of these positions is generally 3-4 months with work beginning approximately mid-June and ending mid-September. The experience and training gained as a Forest Fire Fighter or a Natural Resource Worker can form the foundation for a successful career in forestry.

Please read this information carefully. If you are interested in applying for one of these opportunities you will need to apply directly to each region that you are interested in working for.

FOREST FIRE FIGHTER CREW MEMBER

Job Profile

Forest fire fighter is an entry-level position. Previous natural resource experience is not required. A forest fire fighter will learn and apply fundamental techniques in the prevention and suppression of forest fires. A forest fire fighter performs entry-level wildland fire duties including hand-line construction, water handling, general suppression and prevention activities or training. When not engaged in wildland fire suppression, forest fire fighters will perform forestry oriented manual labor such as timber stand improvement and maintaining recreation sites, buildings, grounds, roads and equipment. Upon hire, basic wildland fire training is provided.

Pay and Hours

The starting salary for forest fire fighter is \$1,461 per month (maximum salary, depending on time/seasons spent in the job, is \$1,672 per month.) Crew members normally work either an 8-hour day, five days a week, or a 10-hour day, four days a week. Forest fire fighter positions may require response during off-duty hours to emergency fire suppression needs. Time and one-half is paid for directed overtime work for actual fire fighting.

NATURAL RESOURCE WORKER 2

Job Profile

Natural Resource Workers generally perform a leadership role within a crew and candidates are required to have 3 months of previous natural resource work experience. Natural Resource Worker duties may include: supervising and/or leading crews on the fireline, fire suppression and prevention, operating and maintaining small motorized equipment, operating light or heavy trucks (e.g. driver of a 1-ton 4x4, 240 gal., 2-3 person fire engine), writing routine burning permits, issuing citations for infractions of fire prevention and recreation use regulations, and conducting logger fire tool inspections. As a Natural Resource Worker, employees may also mark and measure timber, cut brush on survey lines, lead small crews to maintain roads and recreation facilities, and operate and maintain small hand and power tools.

Pay and Hours

Natural Resource Worker 2s are paid a starting salary of \$1,958 per month (maximum salary, depending on time spent in the job, is \$2,468 per month.) Natural Resource Worker 2 positions may require response during off-duty hours to emergency fire suppression needs. Fire suppression overtime is paid at the rate of time and one-half.

WORKING CONDITIONS

FOR FOREST FIRE FIGHTERS AND NATURAL RESOURCE WORKERS

Many of the duties performed on these jobs require considerable physical exertion; working outdoors in all terrain and weather conditions, working long hours, and extended periods of time away from home. Duties include but may not be limited to the ability to carry up to 45 pounds, run, bend, twist, walk and/or climb. These conditions require the ability to perform the job duties with or without reasonable accommodation. A work capacity test or "pack" test that measures the physical fitness of candidates is administered as part of the selection process. Candidates are required to pass at the "arduous" level for a fire fighter crew member or natural resource worker position.

Most jobs are "home guard" which means employees must reside within a short commute of a crew assembly point. A short commute is typically considered to be within 35 miles but this also depends on the response time. Typical crews will operate from a crew leader's home and consist of two crewmembers. Exact locations vary each year and are scattered through the department's fire protection area. Employees working as "home guard" must have their own reliable transportation and a home telephone.

DNR also maintains two 15 to 20-member hand crews. These crews are maintained at Highlands Camp near Loomis, WA in the <u>Northeast</u> region and at Ahtanum located 29 miles west of Yakima, WA in the <u>Southeast</u> region. At these locations, barracks with bedding are provided. Meals are provided at Highlands Camp and \$3.00 per meal is deducted from each paycheck.

Natural resource workers and forest fire fighters in the Southeast region may also apply to become a Helitack crew member. Helitack crew members are based out of Ellensburg and provide state-wide aviation support of fires throughout the season.

DNR will provide fire crewmembers with required safety clothing or "PPE" (Personal Protective Equipment). This clothing may be worn during regular work hours. All undergarments are the responsibility of the individual and should be 100% cotton. Crew members are required to wear lace-up boots made of heavy leather construction that extend a minimum of 8" above the sole and are of non-slip design. DNR will reimburse up to \$180 for the cost of pre-approved boots. Other clothing; such as rain-gear, coats, hats etc., must be provided by the individual.

JOB REQUIREMENTS

FOR FOREST FIRE FIGHTERS AND NATURAL RESOURCE WORKERS

- Must possess a high school diploma or G.E.D.
- Must have a valid driver's license with a 3-year driving abstract free from serious traffic violations and two years of driving experience. Examples of serious traffic violations: Within three years any suspension or revocation of license for reckless driving, hit and run, leaving an accident scene, failure to appear, driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol, or other vehicle-related felony; or for multiple traffic offenses (4 moving violations/infractions in 12 months/5 moving violations/infractions in 24 months) resulting in a Conditional Status driving record or subsequent suspension/revocation of license, or 6 or more moving violations with a 12-month period resulting in license suspension.
- The ability to act promptly and use good judgment in emergencies, and deal tactfully with the public.
- <u>All</u> candidates applying for fire positions will be required to pass a work capacity test or "pack" test during the selection process. The pack test may be administered before or after a contingent employment offer has been made. General information about the pack test is included in this packet and more detailed information is provided to candidates at the time they are interviewed.
- Natural Resource Worker applicants must also have three months of natural resource labor experience.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

FOR NATURAL RESOURCE WORKER 2 APPLICANTS

- current Red Card rating of Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1)
- previous forest fire fighting experience
- strong leadership skills

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

2005 summer season applications are accepted between January 1st and April 30th.

Who May Apply

Anyone who meets the requirements listed above for a Forest Fire Fighter or a Natural Resource Worker.

How and Where to Apply

The hiring process for summer fire fighting employment is decentralized to the agency's six regional offices throughout Washington State. Each region manages their own hiring process for applicants who are interested and available to work within their geographical boundaries. Information about each region is available on the next page.

- 1. Determine which regions you are available to work in.
- 2. Complete an employment application for each region(s) that you are interested and available to work in. Each region has a unique employment application which you can obtain by clicking on the name of the region (on the next page) or you may contact the region office and request that an application be mailed to you.
- 3. Go to the Department of Licensing and request a copy of your 3-year driving abstract record called "Non-commercial Insurance Record." There is a \$5 fee for this abstract. You will be required to present a Washington Driver License or a document containing both the name and photograph as proof of identity OR, you can mail a completed Request for Abstract of Driving Record form (note: check the "Non-commercial insurance record" box of the request form) and fee to the address printed on the form. The record will be printed and mailed to you. The abstract must be dated within the last 30 days at the time you submit it with your employment application.
- 4. Mail or drop off the employment application, driving abstract **and a copy of your drivers license** to the region office. All materials should be submitted together as one packet.

Important to understand: All answers and statements on your employment application must be true and complete to the best of your knowledge. The state may verify information and untruthful or misleading answers are cause for rejection of your application, or dismissal if employed.

Required upon hire: Once hired, employees must furnish proof of eligibility to work in the United States. Typical documents that demonstrate proof are a social security card and a drivers license.



This announcement is published by the Washington State Department of Natural Resources (DNR). The DNR is an equal opportunity employer. Persons with a disability who need assistance in the application or testing process, or those needing this announcement in an alternative format may call (360) 902-1150. DNR may be contacted using the Washington State Telecommunications Relay Service (TTY) by dialing 711.

REGION INFORMATION

Click on the region name for their specific employment application. Employment Applications are in Microsoft® Word. If you do not have Microsoft® Word you may download a free Microsoft® Word viewer utility. Word Viewer Utility

DNR Regions	Counties Served	Region Contact (for additional information)	Application Mailing Address
<u>Northeast</u>	Pend Oreille Okanogan Stevens Ferry Lincoln Spokane	Penny Foerch penny.foerch@wadnr.gov (please do not e-mail applications) Phone: (509) 684-7474	Department of Natural Resources Northeast Region PO Box 190 Colville WA 99114-0190
Northwest	Whatcom Snohomish Skagit Island San Juan	Shesha Zavala shesha.zavala@wadnr.gov Phone: (360) 856-3500 FAX (360) 856-2150	Department of Natural Resources Northwest Region 919 N Township Street Sedro Woolley WA 98284-9395
Olympic	Clallam N Grays Harbor Jefferson	Cindy Sanders cindy.sanders@wadnr.gov Phone: (360) 374-6131 FAX: (360) 374-5446	Department of Natural Resources Olympic Region 411 Tillicum Lane Forks WA 98331-9797
Pacific Cascade	S Grays Harbor Thurston Lewis Pacific Clark Cowlitz Skamania Wahkiakum	Judy Hainline judy.hainline@wadnr.gov Phone: (360) 577-2025 FAX: (360) 274-4196	Department of Natural Resources Pacific Cascade Region PO Box 280 Castle Rock WA 98611-0280
Southeast	Asotin Chelan Yakima Kittitas Klickitat Garfield	Sally Bollinger sally.bollinger@wadnr.gov (please do not e-mail applications) Phone: (509) 925-8510	Department of Natural Resources Southeast Region 713 East Bowers Road Ellensburg WA 98926-9341
South Puget Sound	Kitsap King Mason Pierce	Mike Minion mike.minion@wadnr.gov Phone: (360) 825-1631 FAX (360) 825-167	Department of Natural Resources South Puget Sound Region 950 Farman Ave N Enumclaw WA 98022-0068